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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : William H. Shepard et al.      Art Unit : 1771  
Serial No. : 10/657,507      Examiner : Jenna-Leigh Befumo  
Filed : September 8, 2003      Conf. No. : 9338  
Title : HOOK-ENGAGEABLE FASTENER SHEETS, AND METHODS AND  
ARTICLES OF MANUFACTURE

**Mail Stop Amendment**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INTERVIEW SUMMARY

On Tuesday, April 4, 2006, Examiner Befumo conducted a telephonic interview with James W. Babineau and Timothy M. Bryan, Attorneys for the Applicants.

Claim 1 was discussed in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,891,547 to Lawless. Applicants discussed distinctions over the Lawless reference. No conclusion was reached regarding allowability, but the Examiner suggested that further evidence with regard to the distinctions of claim 1 over the Lawless reference would be helpful to support a finding of patentability.

In the Examiner's Interview Summary dated April 10, 2006, the Examiner asserts that "the applicants did not think the lightweight material would be able to be bonded to a paper layer because the extras adhesive would coat or cover the loop material and hinder the loop material from fastening to the hook fastener" and that "Applicants will provide additional evidence to attempt to show that one of ordinary skill in the art would not have a reasonable expectation of success if paper is used as the backing layer." However, these were merely suggestions by Applicants' attorneys that there may have been reasons why lamination to paper would have

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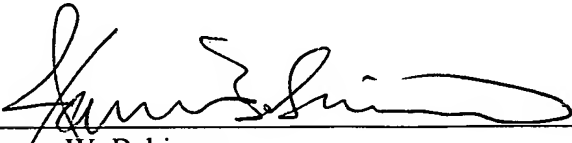
involved additional issues not applicable to lamination to other materials, suggestions which they proposed to substantiate, if appropriate upon further evaluation, by declaration of a skilled artisan. Upon further consultation, Applicants preferred to forego any such assertions in favor of the claim amendments as now presented.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

August 2, 2006

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